

RUSSELL SANDERS  
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ABRAHAM PART 22  
THE INTERCESSOR

As the three men departed, (Genesis 18:16) Abraham went with them part way to Sodom. It was then revealed by God to Abraham about impending judgement due to the sin of the city. Abraham stopped short as the three men (angels) proceeded onward.

As he stood before the LORD near Sodom, he began to intercede on behalf of the city for the sake of his nephew Lot. He asked God if he would spare the city from destruction if there were fifty righteous people in it. God said He would. Abraham continued his countdown to as few as ten people and God said He would spare the city. At that point, God departed, and Abraham returned to his tent.

What Abraham did was “standing in the gap” as an intercessor. He stood on behalf of Lot for his safety. He interceded; he gave a plea for Lot’s life to be spared. You can “stand in the gap” for someone as a “bridge” between them and the harmful place so that they may escape from harm and God can move them into a better place, even a safer place or well-being. This is one of the important functions of an intercessor and of intercessory prayer. It is “in play” when the one for whom you are interceding appears to be in a place unable to help themselves.

An intercessor’s “burden” is a very compelling one that cannot be ignored. If you fail to pray through it, failing to “stand in the gap” for them, are you held accountable to God for what happens? When you feel an urgent need to pray for somebody, please do it without delay. Time is usually of critical essence. To delay is to fail.

Some who are called to a ministry of intercession usually have a certain general type of subject or concern for which to intercede. That is different as it is a daily prayer ministry as opposed to “standing in the gap” for a particular person or particular one-time basis. Others are called (but only a few) to be an intercessor as their prayer ministry.

Always listen to Holy Spirit and His leading, that way you will never fail to respond to the need.